

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1-11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (new): Crib hardware for a releasable crib side comprising:

- a) a first side rail means which is channeled to receive a vertically aligned first slide rod and which is attached to a first side rail slat,
- b) a second side rail means which is channeled to receive a vertically aligned second slide rod and which is attached to a second side rail slat,
- c) a dropside means for supporting and connecting the first and second side rail slats and for supporting a latching means,
- d) a first corner leg means which is slotted to receive said first side rail means, channeled to receive the vertically aligned first slide rod, and channeled with a first recess to receive a latching means,
- e) a second corner leg means which is slotted to receive said second side rail means, channeled to receive the vertically aligned second slide rod, and channeled with a second recess to receive a latching means,
- f) a latching means for holding said dropside means in a locked upright position and for releasing said dropside means,

whereby activating said latching means allows for the release of the first side rail means within the first corner leg means and along the first vertically aligned slide rod substantially contemporaneously with the release of the second side rail means within the second corner leg means and along the second vertically aligned slide rod such that the dropside means lowers until the first side rail means and second side rail means rest on the bottom of the slots of the first corner leg means and second corner leg means, respectively, such that access to the slots is blocked by the side rail slats.

- Claim13 (new): The crib hardware as defined in claim 12, whereby access to the slots is additionally blocked by the dropside means.
- Claim 14 (new): The crib hardware as defined in claim 12, wherein the dropside means comprises a top horizontal bar, a bottom horizontal bar, and a plurality of slats vertically aligned and attached to the top horizontal bar and the bottom horizontal bar at spaced intervals.
- Claim 15 (new): The crib hardware as defined in claim 12, wherein the dropside means comprises a top horizontal bar, a bottom horizontal bar, and a plurality of slats vertically aligned and attached to the top horizontal bar and the bottom horizontal bar at spaced intervals, whereby access to the slots is additionally blocked by the dropside means.
- Claim 16 (new): The crib hardware as defined in claim 12, wherein the latching means comprises a first latch rod, a second latch rod, and a footplate connected to the first and second latch rods.
- Claim 17 (new): The crib hardware as defined in claim 12, wherein the latching means comprises a first latch rod, a second latch rod, and a footplate connected to the first and second latch rods, whereby access to the slots is additionally blocked by the dropside means.
- Claim18 (new): The crib hardware as defined in claim 12, wherein the dropside means comprises a top horizontal bar, a bottom horizontal bar, and a plurality of slats vertically aligned and attached to the top horizontal bar and the bottom horizontal bar at spaced intervals, and wherein the latching means comprises a first latch rod, a second latch rod, and a footplate connected to the first and second latch rods.

Claim 19 (new): The crib hardware as defined in claim 12, wherein the dropside means comprises a top horizontal bar, a bottom horizontal bar, and a plurality of slats vertically aligned and attached to the top horizontal bar and the bottom horizontal bar at spaced intervals, and wherein the latching means comprises a first latch rod, a second latch rod, and a footplate connected to the first and second latch rods, whereby access to the slots is additionally blocked by the dropside means.

Claim 20 (new): A device for lifting and lowering a movable side of a baby's crib, said device comprising:

- a) a movable dropside means comprising a top horizontal bar, a bottom horizontal bar, a plurality of slats vertically aligned and attached to the top horizontal bar and the bottom horizontal bar at spaced intervals, and a first and second side rail,
- b) a latching means comprising a first latch rod, a second latch rod, and a footplate connected to the first and second latch rods, with said latching means attached to said dropside means,
- c) a corner leg means comprising a first vertical slide rod, a second vertical slide rod, a first corner leg, and a second corner leg, wherein each corner leg is slotted to receive the dropside means, channeled to receive a vertical slide rod, and channeled with a recess to receive the latching means,

whereby activating the latching means by actuating the footplate moves the latch rods away from the recesses in the corner leg means allowing the movable dropside means to move vertically within the corner leg means along the vertical slide rods, such that access to the slots in the corner leg means is blocked by the movable dropside means throughout the range of motion of the movable dropside means.

Claim 21 (new): A method for lifting and lowering a movable side of a baby's crib, comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a movable dropside means comprising a top horizontal bar, a bottom horizontal bar, a plurality of slats vertically aligned and attached to the top horizontal bar and the bottom horizontal bar at spaced intervals, and a first and second side rail, which are channeled to receive a vertical slide rod,
- b) attaching a latching means, comprising a first latch rod, a second latch rod, and a footplate connected to the first and second latch rods, to said movable dropside means,
- c) providing a corner leg means comprising a first vertical slide rod, a second vertical slide rod, a first corner leg, and a second corner leg, wherein each corner leg is slotted to receive the movable dropside means, channeled to receive a vertical slide rod, and channeled with a recess to receive the latching means, and
- d) activating the latching means by actuating the footplate to move the latch rods away from the recesses in the corner leg means,

whereby the movable dropside means moves vertically within the corner leg means along the vertical slide rods, such that access to the slots in the corner leg means is blocked by the movable dropside means throughout the range of motion of the movable dropside means.